

129: EVEN NOW, THEY STILL FIND NEW WAYS TO DISPOSE OF THE DEAD

SKYBOUND



# THE WALKING DEAD

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN



CU 14



IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

# THE WALKING DEAD™

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## Previously:

Rick agrees to allow Carl to apprentice at the Hilltop. Meanwhile, Magna and her group assimilate to life in Alexandria... but don't trust that everything is what it seems.

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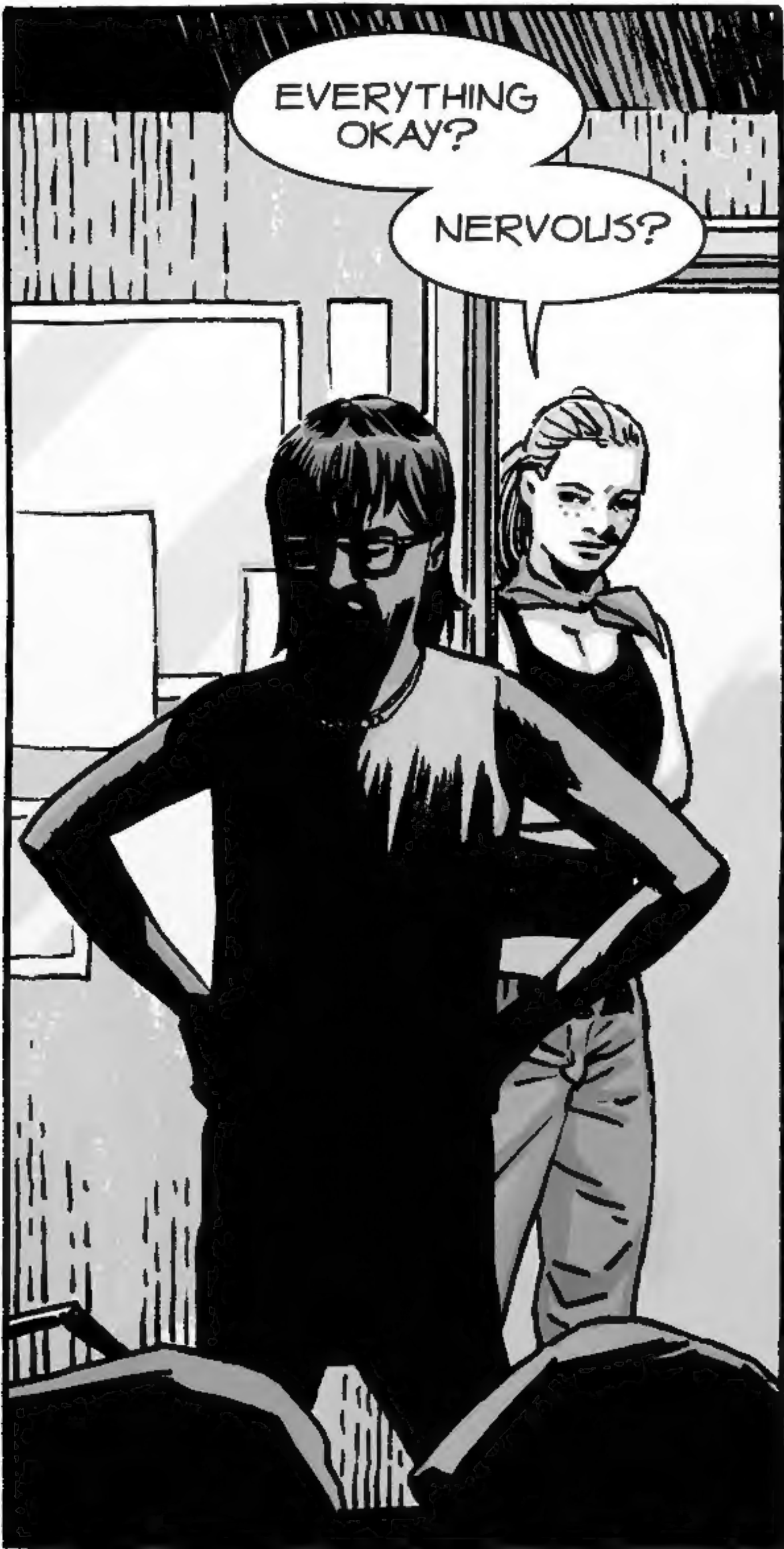
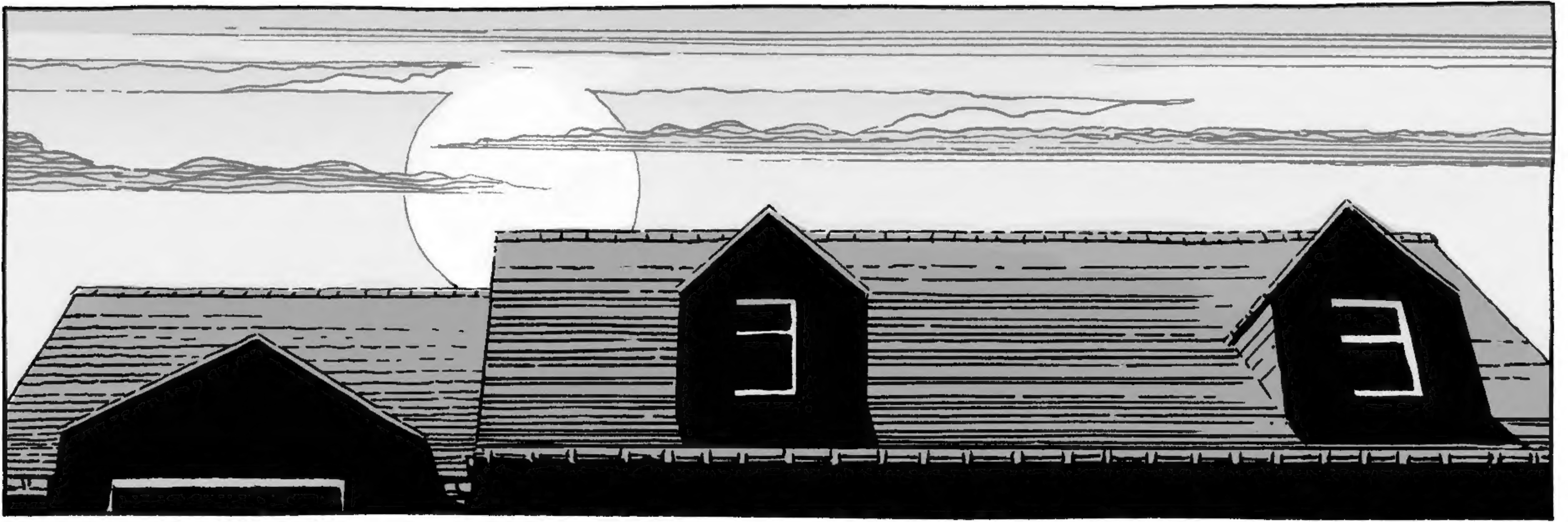
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THIS TIME OF  
DAY REMINDS ME  
OF THE WORST  
PART OF BEING  
HERE... AND THE  
*BEST.*

THE FACT  
THAT I HAVE  
TO SHIT IN A  
BUCKET...

...AND THE  
FACT THAT  
*YOU'RE* THE  
ONE CLEANING  
OUT MY SHIT  
BUCKET.







I'M JUST BRINGING YOU FOOD. SOMEONE ELSE WILL BE BY LATER TO CLEAN YOUR BUCKET.

BUSY DAY TODAY?

TAKING CARL TO THE HILLTOP, MAYBE?



...



OH, COME ON... I KNOW YOU SCOLDED HIM, BUT DID YOU REALLY THINK HE'D STOP COMING TO TALK TO ME?

HE'S MY BUDDY. YOU CAN'T BREAK THAT BOND.



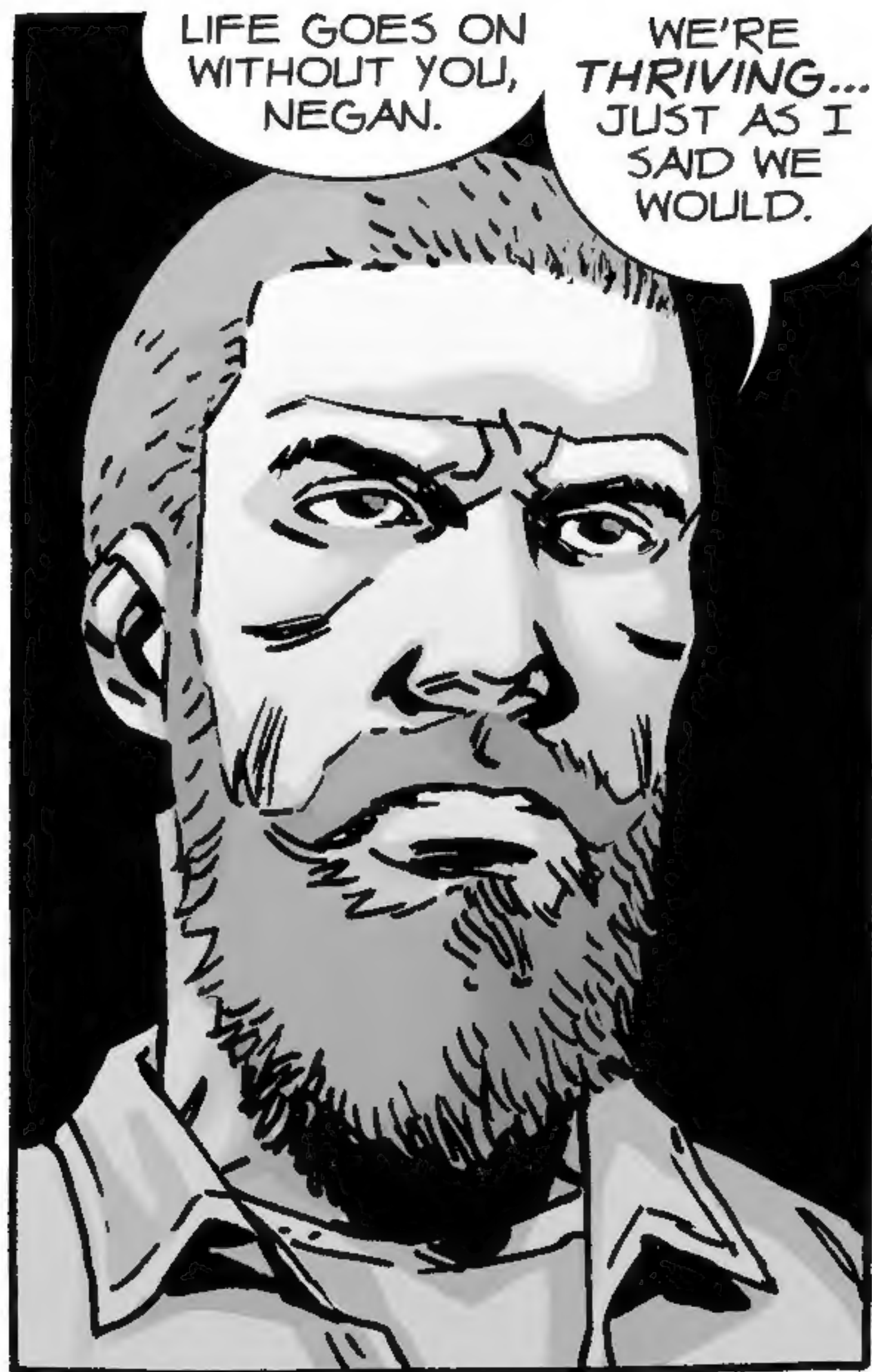
DOESN'T MATTER NOW. HE'S GOING.

WHY DO YOU THINK I TOLD YOU?



THAT CREAKING SOUND I HEAR... IS THAT A WINDMILL?

YEAH... I THOUGHT SO.



LIFE GOES ON WITHOUT YOU, NEGAN.

WE'RE THRIVING... JUST AS I SAID WE WOULD.



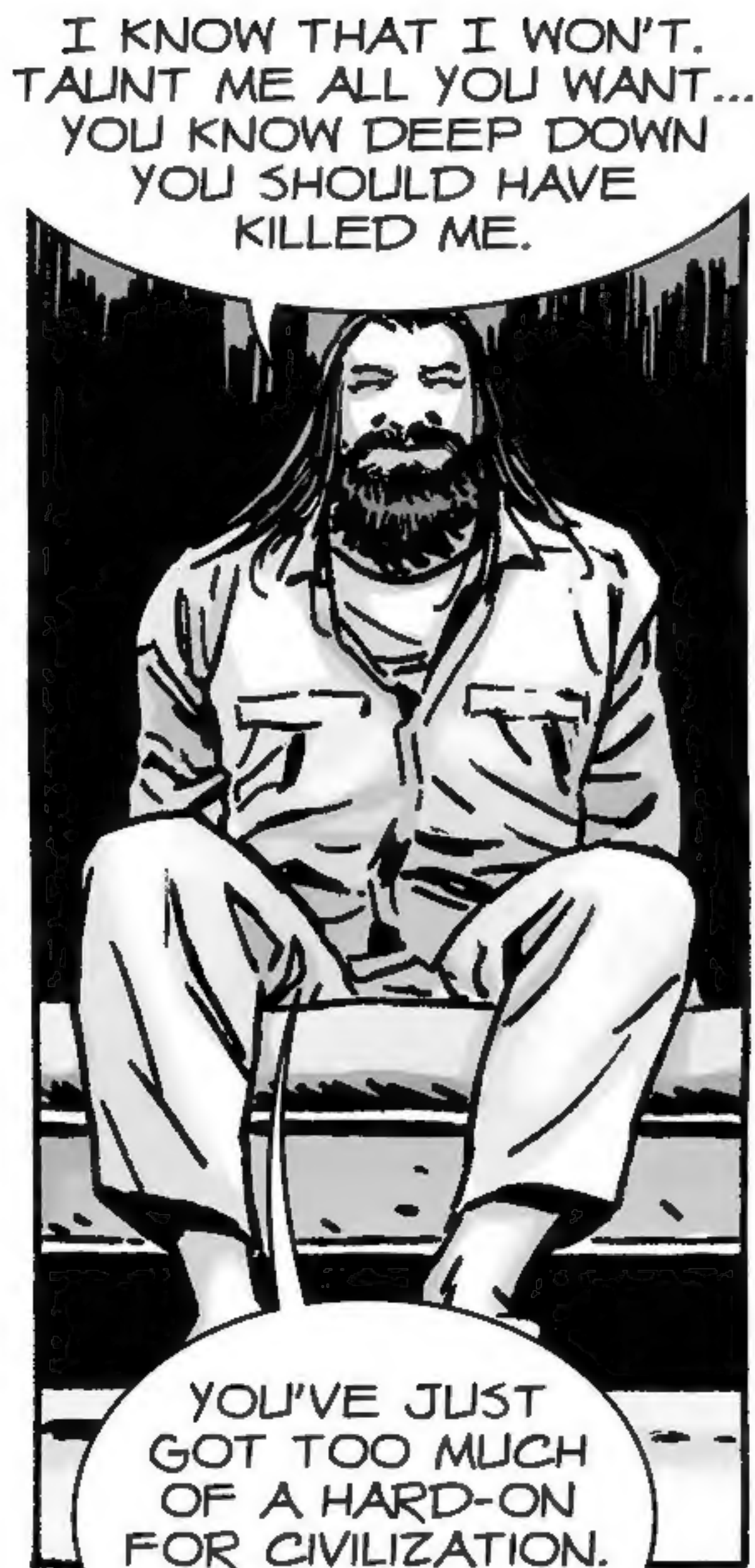
YOU'RE JUST GETTING THINGS READY FOR ME.

YOU KNOW I WON'T BE IN HERE FOREVER.





I KNOW YOU'LL  
**DIE** BEHIND  
THESE BARS.



I KNOW THAT I WON'T.  
TAUNT ME ALL YOU WANT...  
YOU KNOW DEEP DOWN  
YOU SHOULD HAVE  
KILLED ME.

YOU'VE JUST  
GOT TOO MUCH  
OF A HARD-ON  
FOR CIVILIZATION.



HAVE YOU NOTICED  
HOW LITTLE YOU USE  
PROFANITY THESE  
DAYS?

WHY YOU  
THINK THAT  
IS?



I DON'T  
SEE THE  
FUCKING  
POINT.

BEST TO  
SAVE MY  
ENERGY.



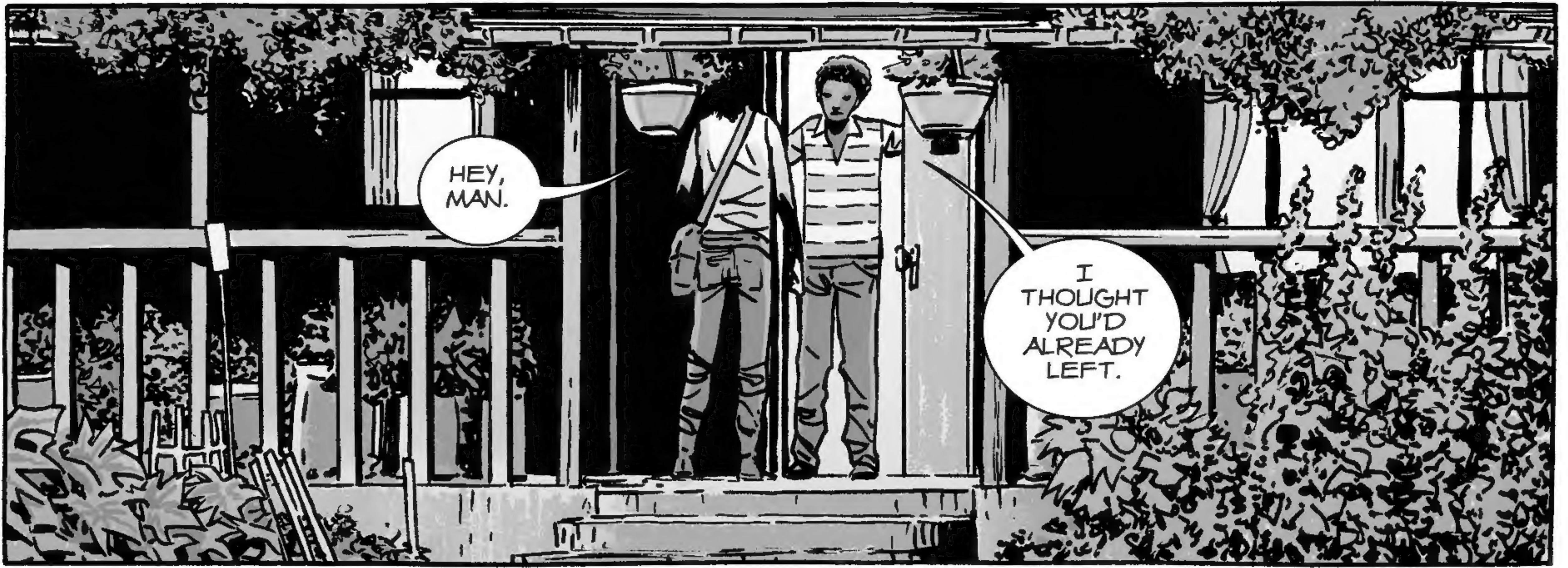
NO,  
THAT'S  
NOT IT.

IT'S  
BECAUSE  
I'VE FUCKING  
**NEUTERED**  
YOU LIKE A DOG.  
YOU'VE GOT NO  
FIGHT LEFT, YOU  
PATHETIC SACK  
OF SHIT.



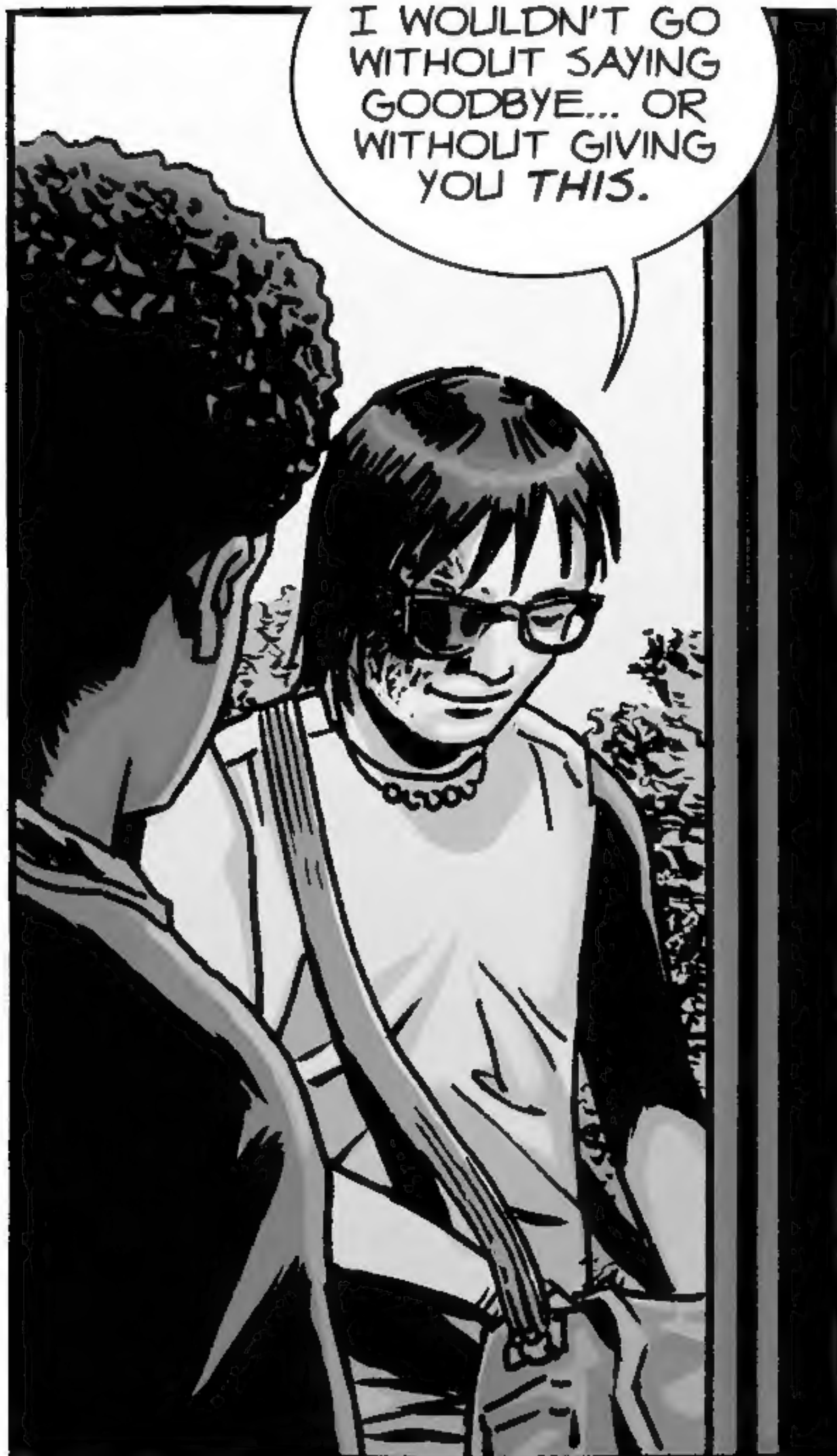
ENJOY  
YOUR  
FOOD.





HEY,  
MAN.

I  
THOUGHT  
YOU'D  
ALREADY  
LEFT.



I WOULDN'T GO  
WITHOUT SAYING  
GOODBYE... OR  
WITHOUT GIVING  
YOU *THIS*.



OH, MAN... I DIDN'T THINK  
YOU'D BE ABLE TO GET IT  
DONE IN TIME.  
SWEET!

I STAYED  
UP ALL NIGHT  
TO FINISH IT.  
DEAL'S A DEAL.



BUT... UH... MY  
MOM HASN'T  
EVEN *STARTED*  
YOUR SWEATSHIRT  
YET.



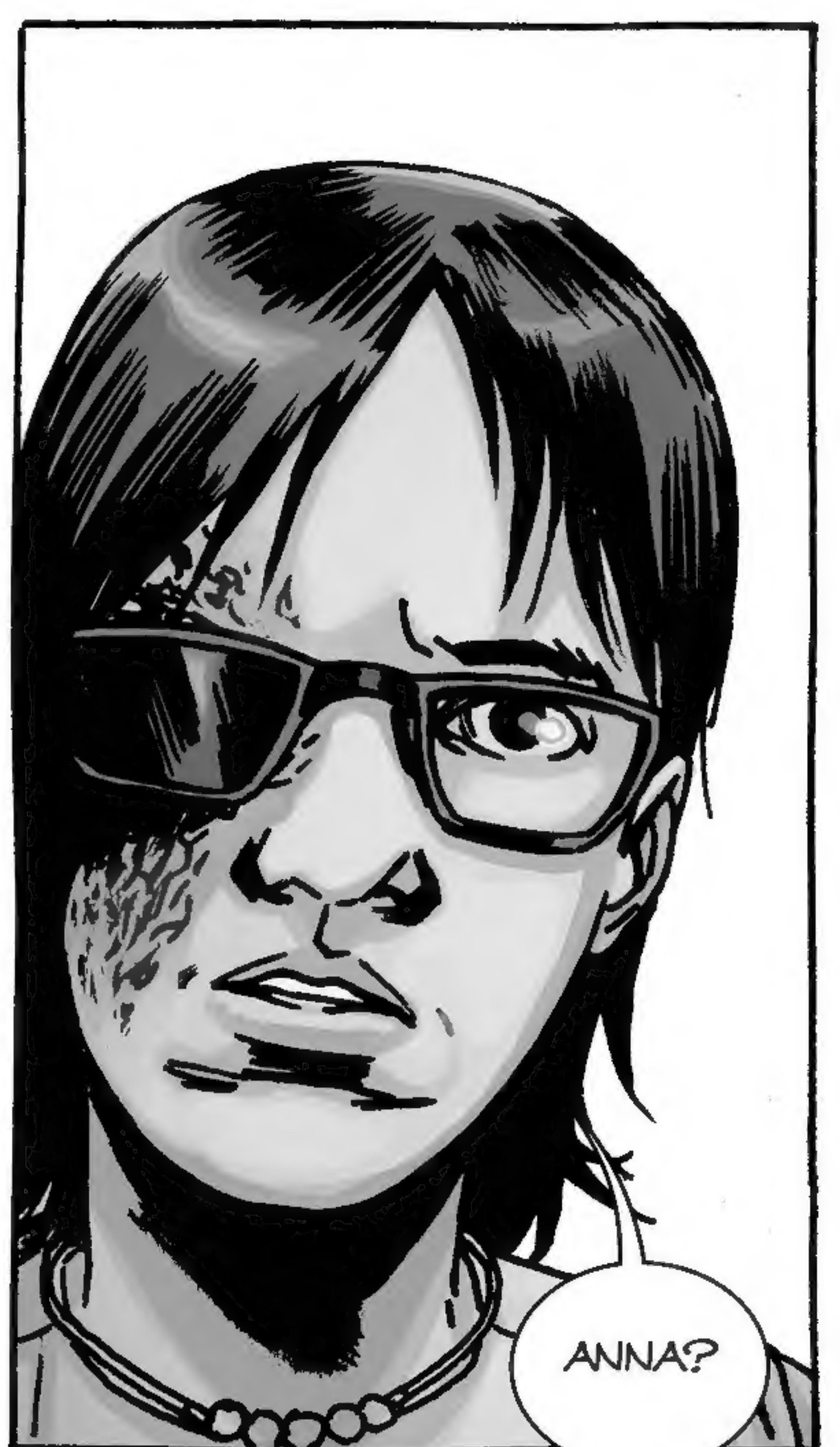
IT'S OKAY... JUST MAKE SURE  
IT'S DONE BEFORE I COME  
BACK TO VISIT.

COOL?



TOTALLY.  
I'LL MAKE  
SURE IT GETS  
DONE.

HEY, ANNA  
HEARD YOU WERE  
LEAVING. SHE WAS  
LOOKING FOR YOU.



ANNA?





VISITING  
SOMEONE?

ONE THING  
WE'RE TRYING TO  
GET A HANDLE ON IS  
THAT SOMETIMES YOU  
CAN'T TELL WHAT'S A  
PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
AND WHAT'S A  
COMMUNITY  
BUILDING.

THEY  
ALL JUST  
LOOK LIKE  
HOUSES.

YEAH... I SUPPOSE THAT  
COULD BE A LITTLE  
CONFUSING.

THIS  
HOUSE IS  
OUR JAIL.  
I WAS  
VISITING A  
PRISONER.

YOU... HOLD  
PEOPLE  
HERE?

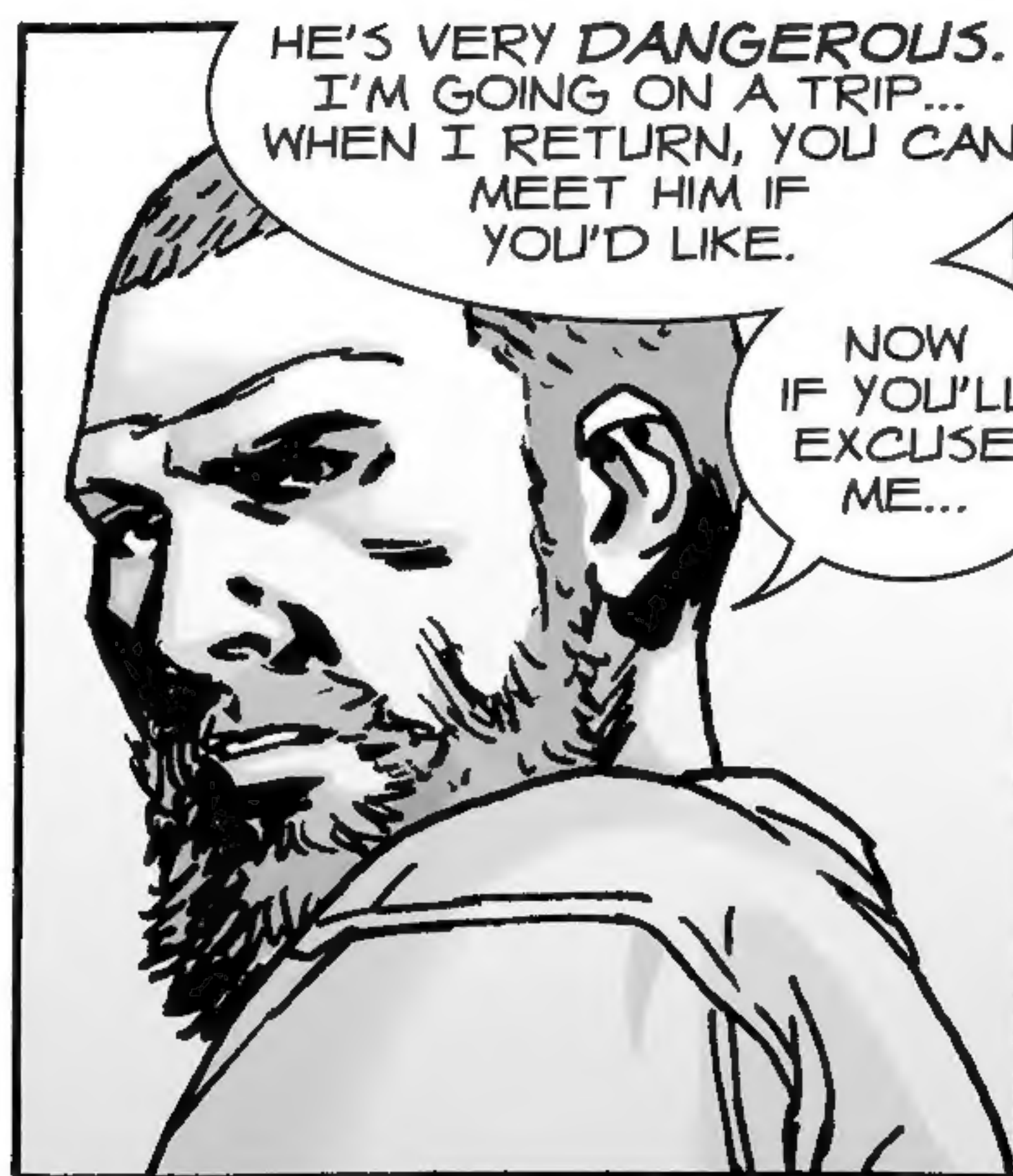
WHEN THEY'VE  
EARNED IT. IT'S  
THE HUMANE  
THING TO  
DO.

WE'VE ONLY  
GOT ONE  
INMATE WHO'S IN  
FOR MORE  
THAN A FEW  
WEEKS OR  
SO.

ONE  
LIFER.



LIFER? CAN I TALK TO  
THIS PERSON?

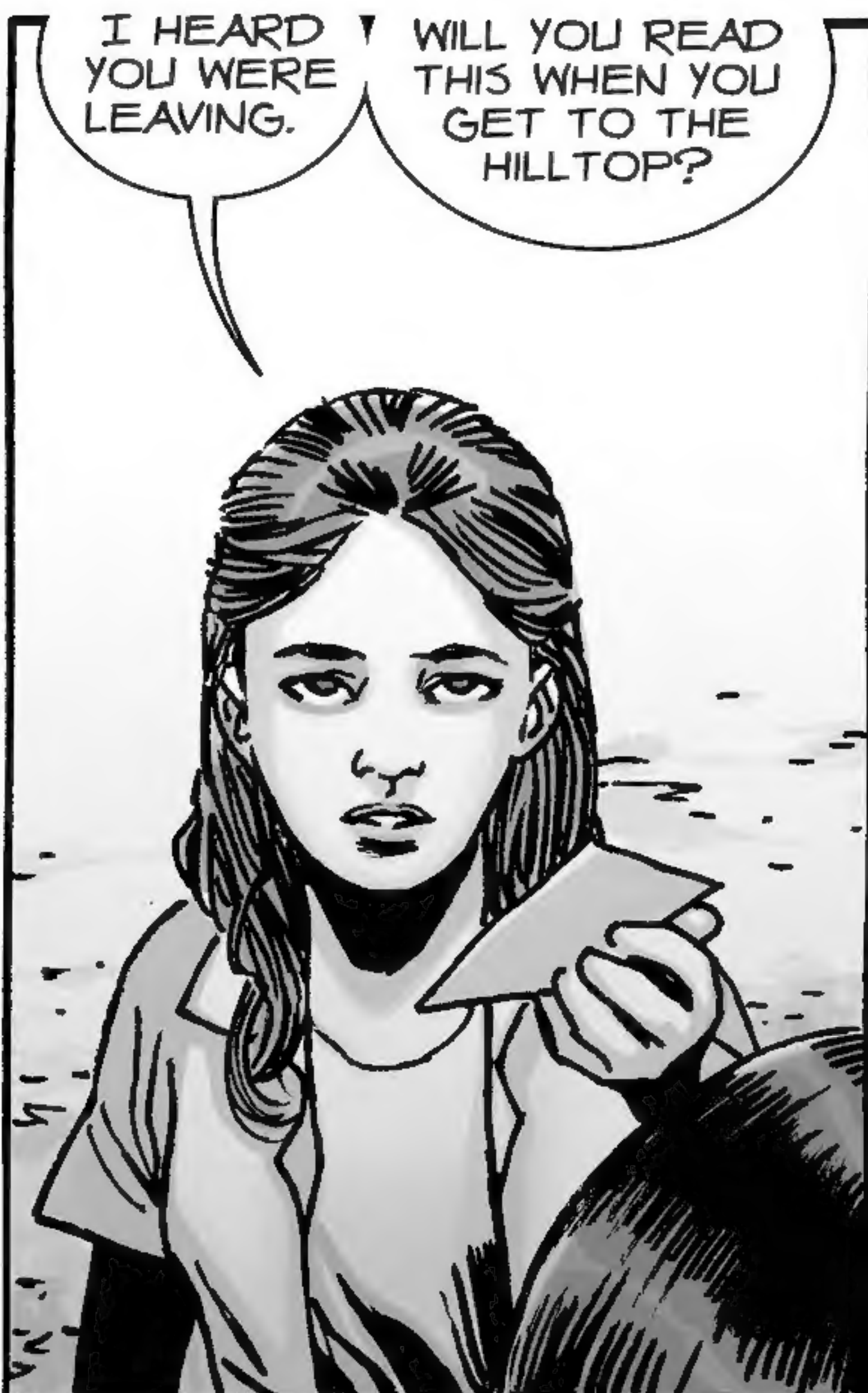
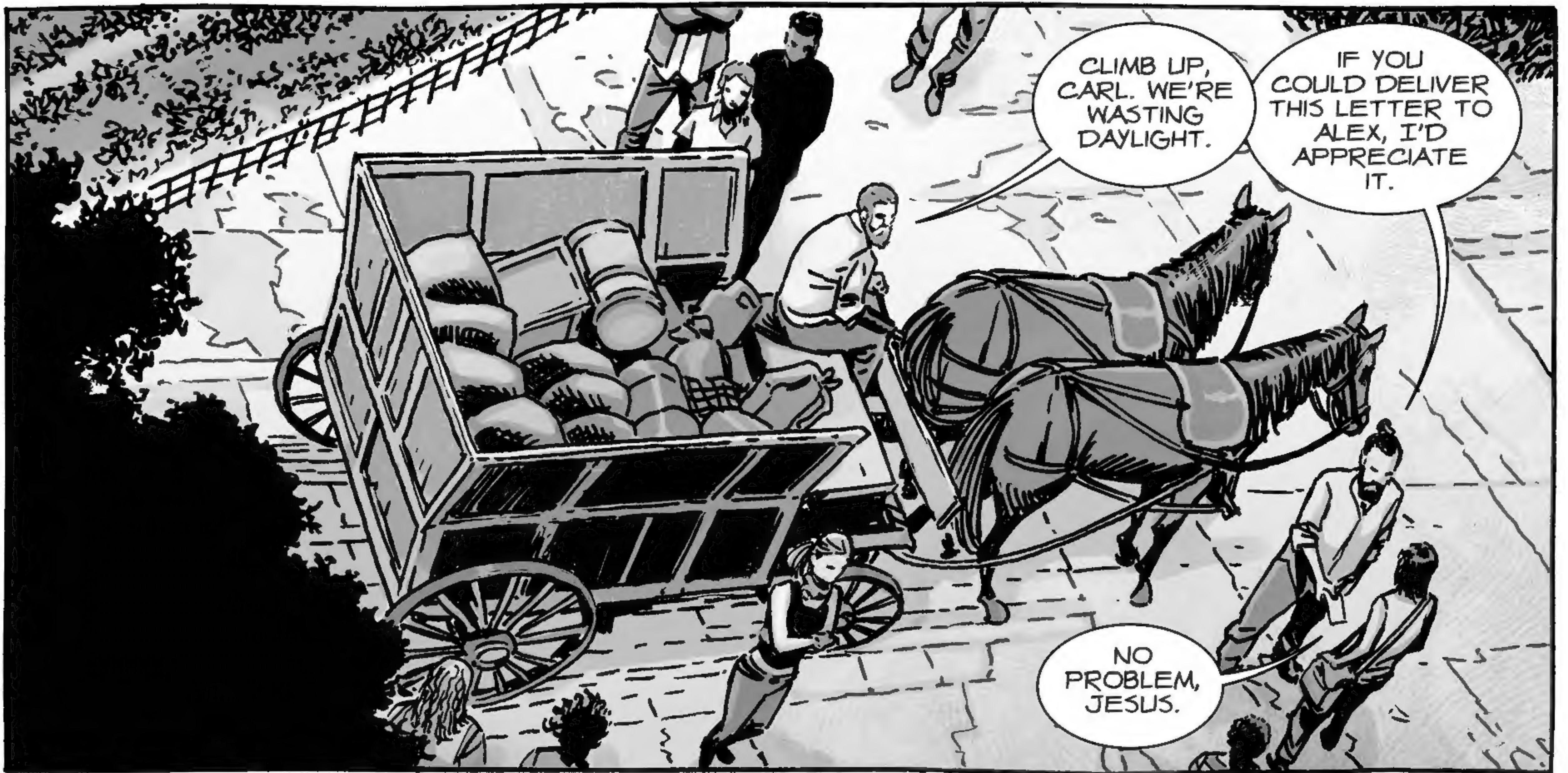


HE'S VERY *DANGEROUS*.  
I'M GOING ON A TRIP...  
WHEN I RETURN, YOU CAN  
MEET HIM IF  
YOU'D LIKE.

NOW  
IF YOU'LL  
EXCUSE  
ME...











WHO'S YOUR  
GIRLFRIEND?

SHUT UP,  
DAD.









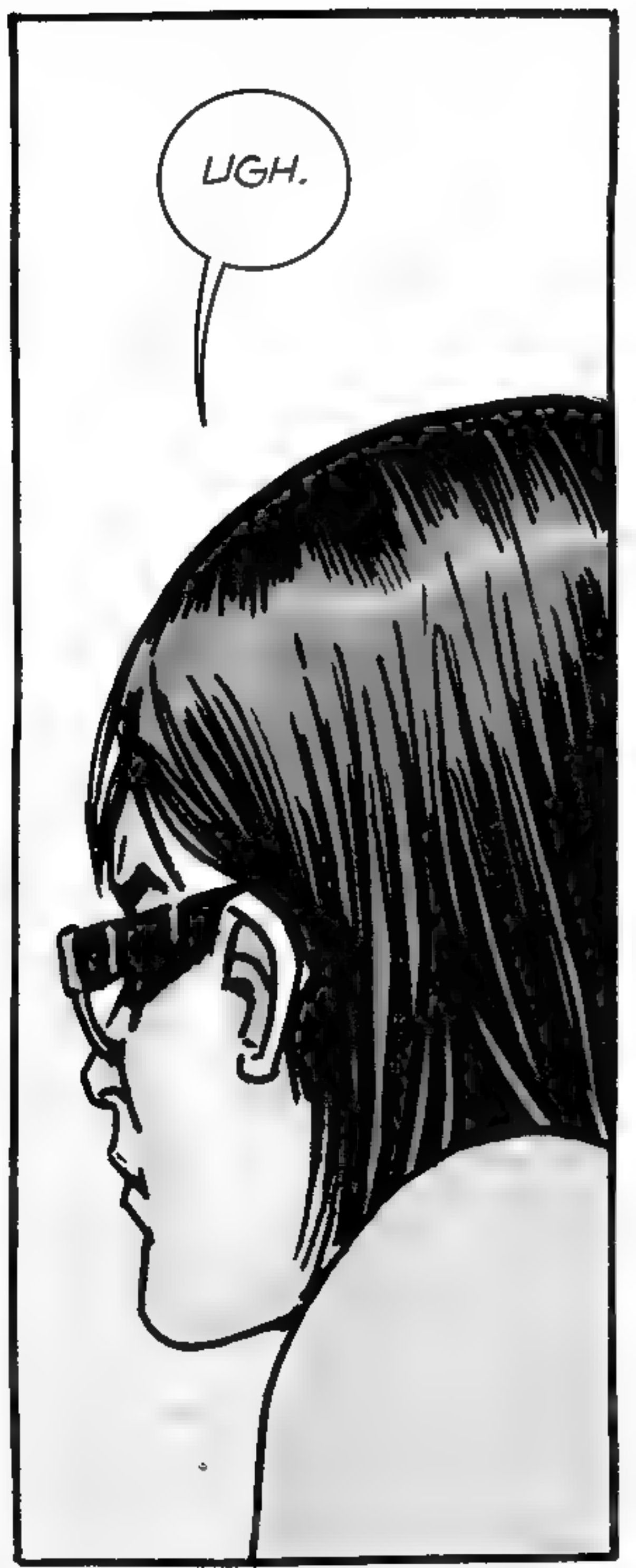
I DON'T WANT TO READ YOUR LOVE LETTER, SON.



IT'S NOT A LOVE LETTER.



HOW WILL WE KNOW UNLESS WE READ IT?



LUGH.



HAVEN'T SEEN A PATROLMAN FOR A WHILE, RIGHT? OR DID I FORGET?

NO... IT'S BEEN A WHILE. WE STOPPING FOR LUNCH?

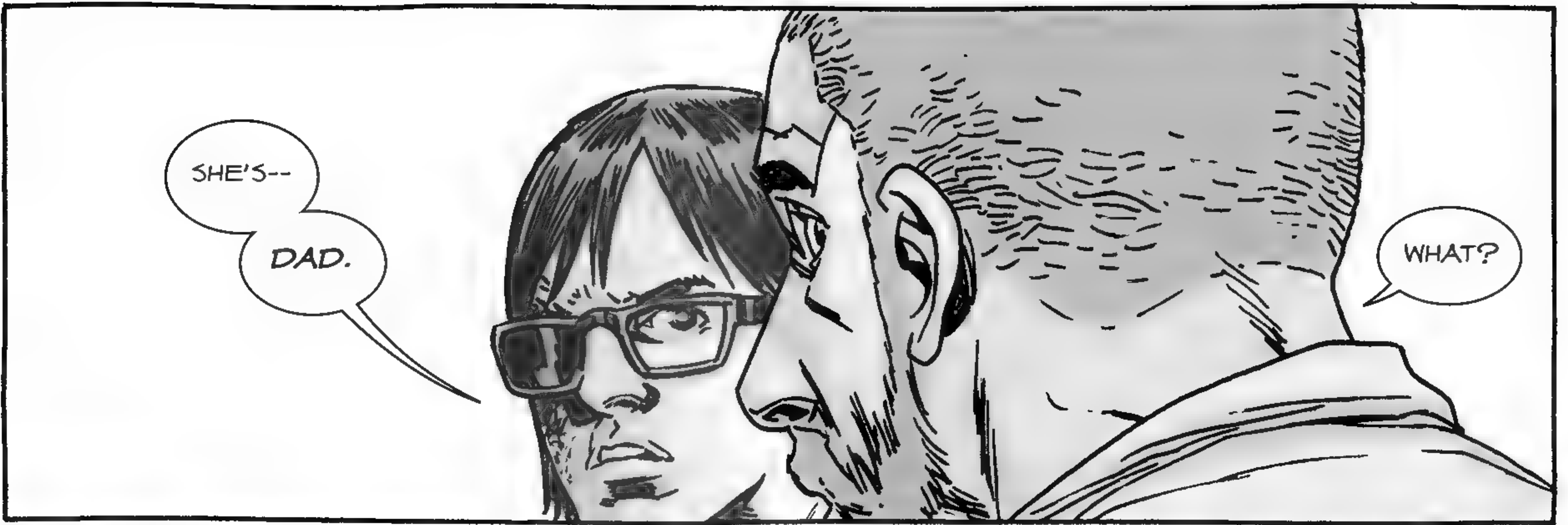


HER NAME IS ANNA. SHE'S A LITTLE OLDER THAN ME, BUT NOT MUCH. SHE WORKS IN THE ORCHARD WITH JOSH... THAT'S HOW WE MET.

I KNEW I'D WEAR YOU DOWN EVENTUALLY.

TELL ME MORE.

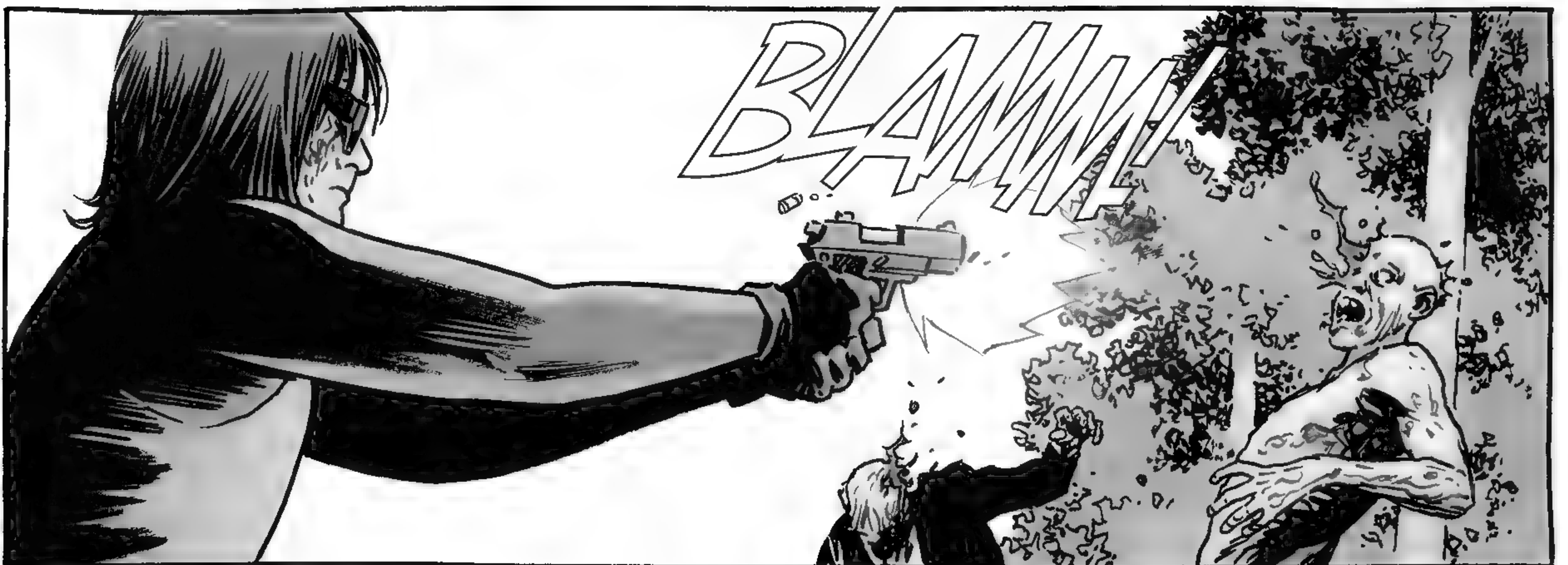
















SORRY, DAD.  
THEY WERE  
GETTING TOO  
CLOSE. I  
COULDN'T  
RISK IT.

I SAW.  
SORRY TO SCARE  
YOU LIKE THAT. I  
THOUGHT I COULD  
HANDLE THEM... IT'S  
BEEN A WHILE  
FOR ME.

THAT WAS  
CLOSE.



THANKS,  
CARL.



I'M SORRY, MISTER--  
THIS AREA SHOULD  
HAVE BEEN CLEAR  
AND--

MR.  
GRIMES?!  
OH, GOD! I'M  
SO SORRY!



DON'T APOLOGIZE.  
TELL ME WHY YOUR  
ZONE WASN'T  
CLEAR.

I'D JUST COME THROUGH  
HERE, BUT I DIDN'T SEE  
ANYTHING. WHEN I HEARD  
THE SHOTS--

GET  
OFF YOUR  
HORSE.



YES,  
SIR, MR.  
GRIMES.

I'M VERY  
SORRY--









I'M SORRY,  
MR. GRIMES.  
I WAS  
DISTRACTED.

I WASN'T AS  
DILIGENT AS I  
SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN... IT WON'T  
HAPPEN  
AGAIN.



I NEED YOUR  
NAME AND  
WHERE YOU  
LIVE.



IT'S  
BENJAMIN,  
SIR. I LIVE IN  
THE KINGDOM.



THIS WILL BE REPORTED.  
IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN, YOU  
WILL BE REASSIGNED.

THIS BETTER  
BE YOUR FIRST  
REPORT.



IT IS,  
SIR.

AND  
IT'LL  
BE MY  
LAST.



DON'T  
FORGET... IF WHAT  
WE'VE ALL WORKED  
SO HARD AND  
SACRIFICED SO  
MUCH TO BUILD IS  
GOING TO WORK...  
THIS ROAD NEEDS  
TO BE SAFE.

YOUR JOB IS  
QUITE POSSIBLY  
THE MOST  
IMPORTANT JOB  
THESE DAYS.

IF WE CAN'T  
PROTECT THIS  
ROAD... IT ALL  
FALLS APART.

REMEMBER  
THAT.





I CAN'T DO IT, MAN. I CAN'T HANG ON.

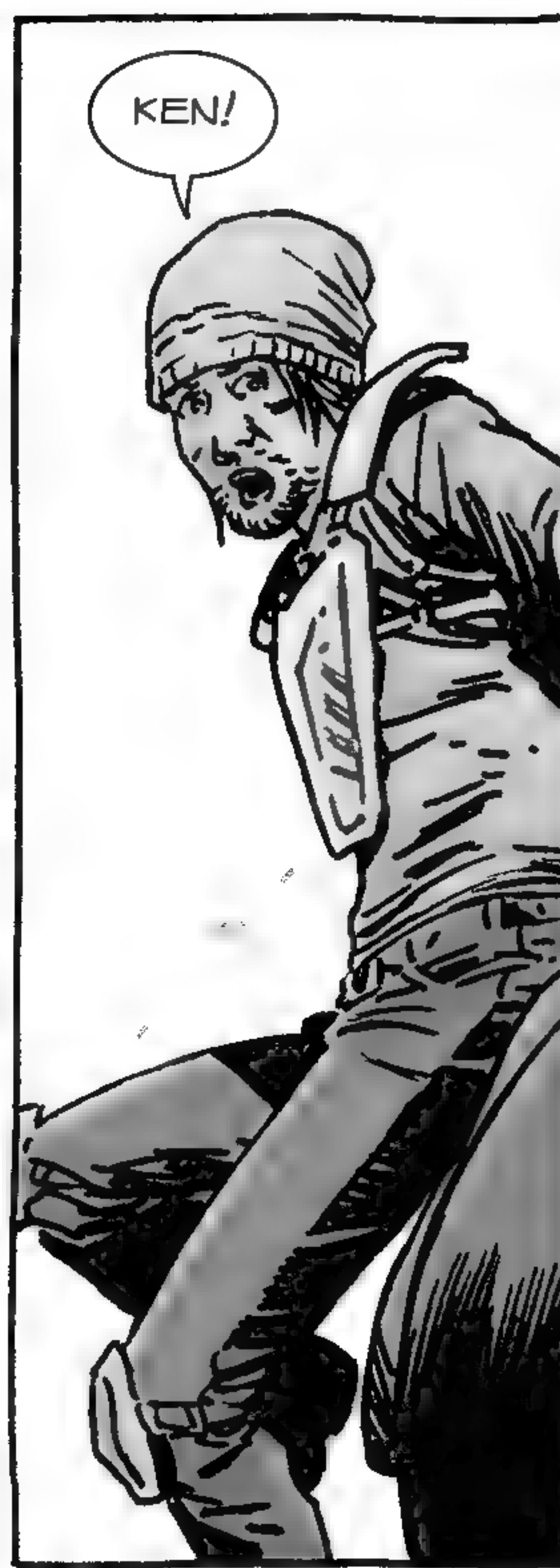
WE GOTTA STOP.



WE'RE STILL IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY. WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK... WE CAN'T LINGER HERE TOO LONG, IT'S--



WHUDD!



KEN!



WAKE UP, MAN!

YOU OKAY?



I'M AWAKE-- I'M--

OH, FUCK!



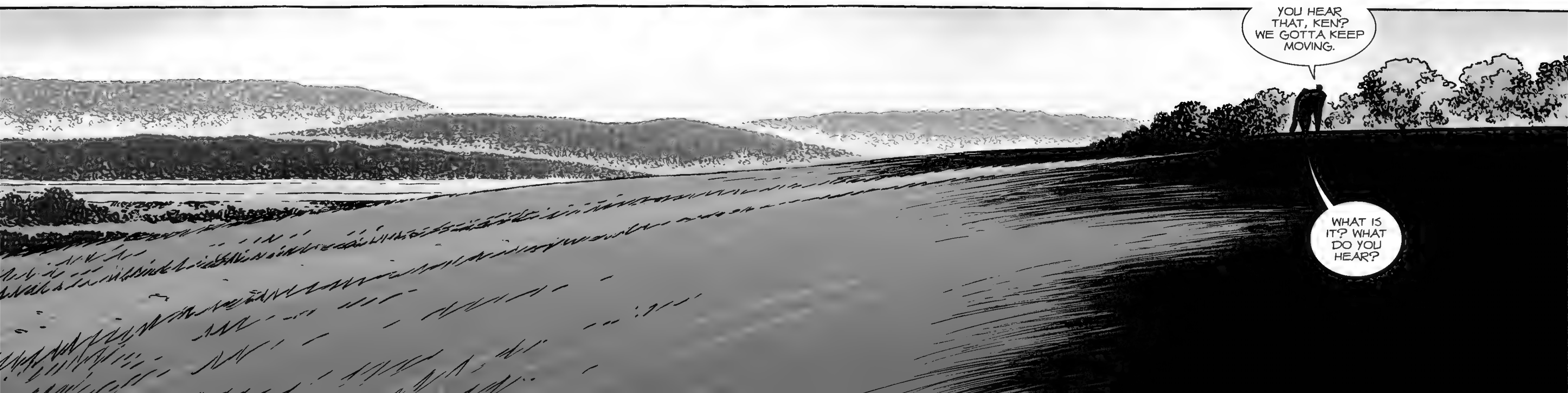
GODDAMN HORSE... WE'RE FUCKED.

HELP ME UP...



YOU GOING TO BE OKAY?

YOU SAID WE CAN'T LINGER... AND MAYBE WE CATCH UP TO THE HORSE IF WE'RE LUCKY.



YOU HEAR THAT, KEN? WE GOTTA KEEP MOVING.

WHAT IS IT? WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

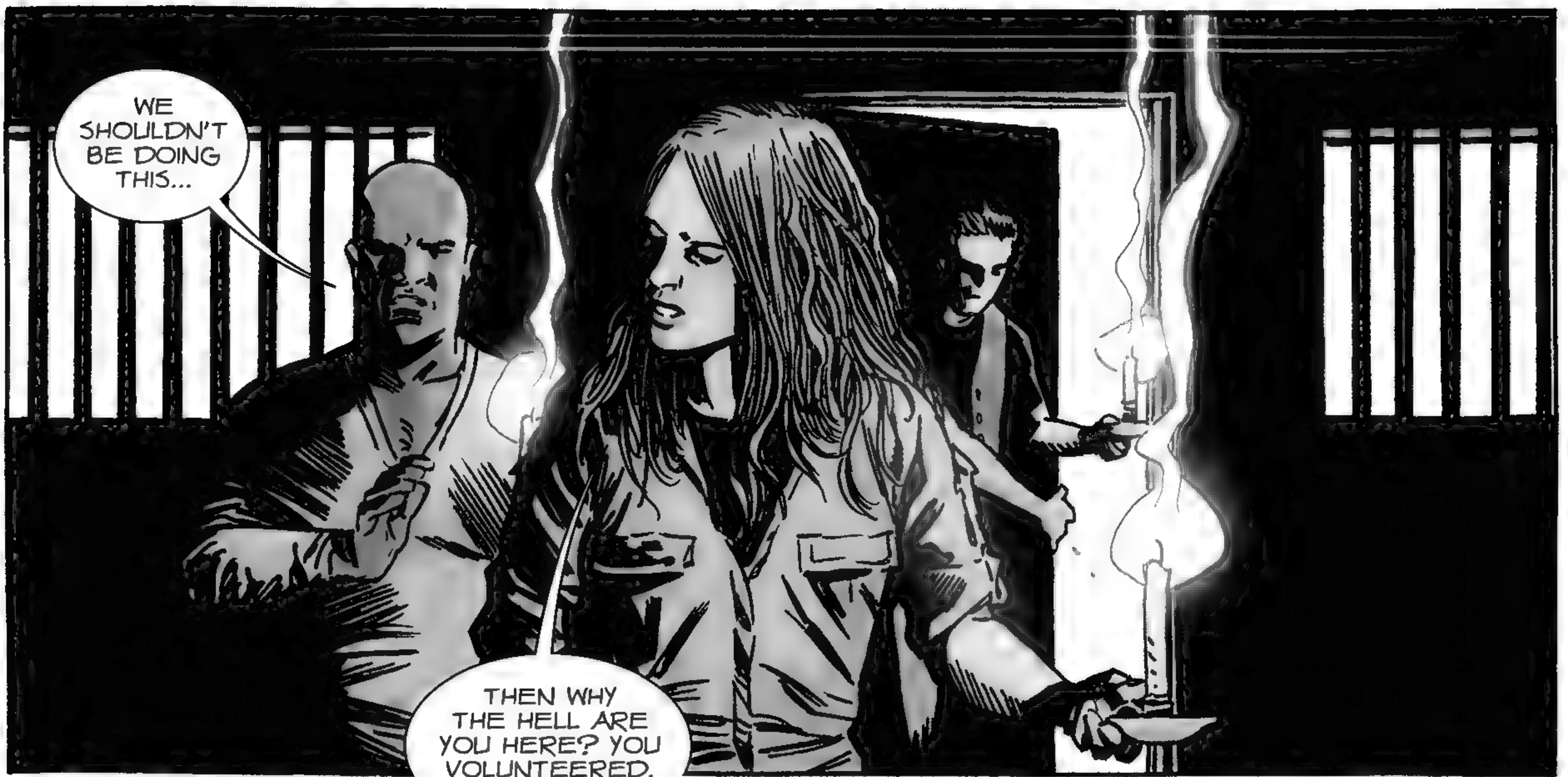




MARCO,  
C'MON--  
TELL ME  
WHAT YOU  
HEAR...

JUST  
KEEP  
MOVING.











# LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

**And this is why you kill a motherfucker dead. Nod your heads in agreement, yes, even you pacifists.**

**This month we dig into your deeply considered, well thought out reactions to #127. You loved it. You love us. It's like one big ol' electronic group hug.**

*Yeah... this is going to be weird.*

Ok.. where do I start? I had my doubts at the end of All Out War... mainly because every issue of the arc that I downloaded (I buy the print issues as well don't you worry about that but this way i can read them straight away) as soon it was put up on comixology at 10:15pm on Wednesday in Australia(Issues come out thursday here) i sat on the edge of my seat reading... waiting.. expecting.. some main character to die, i was disappointed. But I had faith that Kirkman knew what he was doing, and now i've just read issue #127 and I'd like to apologise for that tiniest amount of doubt I had, holy shit well done. Here come the numbers!

1. The intro with the new characters and that giant herd? Holy shit Charlie Adlard you are amazing, those were some amazing panels of beautiful art that should be in an art gallery.

2. Jesus' new look... Or should I say Samurai Jesus, it took me a while to notice it was him, but PLEASE PLEASE can we get a Samurai Jesus figure riding on that horse with the sword and all ASAP!

**I would love to make that so.**

3. Rick and Carl... Hipster Rick and Carl? Shaved head and beard on rick, hipster looking classes on Carl, not saying the looks are bad, I'm loving the new Rick but yeah... hipsters. What was the process on deciding the new looks for the characters?

**I've gone over this before, but the world of TWD rejects your notions of hipsterism. Flat out.**

*I agree. I mean... I GUESS they could pass for hipsters... but that certainly wasn't the intent.*

4. The pigs arse.. I know Charlie loves drawing ass cracks sticking out of pants, but that panel with pigs ass in full view to the right.. really Charlie?

**Englishmen really know their way around a pig's ass, I've been told. Or is that the Scots? Is there a difference?**

*Isn't that the Welsh? Hey... two Americans attempting British humour!*

5. There's a million other things i want to mention, wheres michonne? will she look different? maggie and her baby? etc etc. But the most important thing I think of the whole issue is the conversation between

Carl and Negan, this really made those last few panels in #125 make sense to me, that Negan could consider Ricks bigger picture idea, he is obviously a very complex character and I hope to see more Carl and Negan conversations to come, all their conversations throughout the previous issues have been amazing.

**Maggie and her baby appear on an October cover, so... October for some answers.**

I can't wait 4 weeks :(!

Jared  
Western Australia

*The real bummer of ALL OUT WAR and the accelerated shipping schedule is that people now complain about our MONTHLY schedule. Thanks to Charlie (just being honest) this book has been on time like clockwork for four years? Five? I don't know when the last time we shipped late was... but it's been a long damn time... and with no fill-ins.*

*Honestly, we should be throwing Charlie a parade every month... not complaining the book doesn't come out even MORE often!*

*That said, we'll be shipping two issues in October... and if Charlie doesn't kill me, we'll try to do that from time to time... because we love you guys.*

Dear Kirkman and co.

Just read 127 and I love how everything seems to have progressed over the 2 year span and rick's new appearance is relle cool and relle shows how much he's endured

*This not fixing people's typos and misspellings thing is confusing, Sean. It's relle hard to figure things out sometimes.*

Having Carl confiding in negan Is an awesome concept as well since negan admired Carl's maturity and toughness throughout the last 3 volumes

I was just worried that michonne wasn't featured at all in this issue and jesus happened to be using a sword. just curious if that was a coincidence or if something might have happened to michonne in the 2 year gap

Can't wait to see where this is headed

Vishal Dusty

*You've probably noticed by now that there are a lot of people with swords. And for the record, NONE of them have been Michonne's (look closely). If she's dead... she took the sword with her. Man... now I'M worried...*



Dear Robert,

I like pirates. Pirates have eyepatches. Please give Carl an eyepatch and have a zombie eat his dorky glasses.

Thanks,  
Carl Elvis

**You like eye patches so much, wear one yourself. We don't do Governor chic.**

Dear Sean and Robert,

Love the new direction. Love the new characters. Love the fast forward. Anxious to find out what happened in the time we readers missed. Please don't ever stop writing this comic and I'll never stop reading it (unless I die.)

Erik

P.S. I wasn't in a Wendy's. Although if there was a Wendy's near where I work I likely would have been. I was in a Papa Gino's. Just as judgmental as Wendy's with none of the Wendy's value menu.

**Papa Gino's >>> Wendy's. My brother used to work in a Papa Gino's. He's doing much better now.**

I knew it! I fucking knew Negan was too awesome to kill off. And LOLLOLOLOLOLOLOLOLOLOLO to all the assumers out there thinking that you guys would kill off such a kick ass polarizing character. Negan is the SHIT! When Negan was first introduced, I was so jacked about the character that I went out and bought the Negan action figure. Black and white version, of course. AND I DON'T BUY ACTION FIGURES!! That's how you know he's bitchin. Anyway...I absolutely love what you guys are doing with the progression of this book. Rick's decision to jail Negan instead of killing him was a baller move but could (and probably will) come back to bite him in the ass. Immediately I question how sturdy this make-shift jail is. Can it hold Negan? Will he escape? If he escapes will he be good Negan or bad Negan? Did Negan make peace with the Lord like all other jailed convicts do? Does Negan give himself some sick jailhouse tats? Will Negan and Carl become Facebook friends? Will Negan start writing into Letter Hacks?!?! I guess we'll just have to wait and see! DUH DUH DUH!!!!!! Keep up the killer work, men. Loving this fucking book.

Jared  
Toledo...Soon to be Gainesville, FL...Ohio

**Of all the gimmicks that attempt to find their home in Hacks, no one's tried to impersonate Negan. Don't start.**

***He's not doing Negan... he's just from Florida! See what happens when all the letters are positive?! I start criticizing the readers!***

Robert, Sean and the rest of the TWD team!

I would love to congratulate you all on issue 127. It exceeded all my expectations for the issue, I was blown away.

But the real reason I wrote this letter to congratulate Charlie Adlard. Charlie is one of my favourite illustrators of all time and I think he drew issue 127 beautifully. The way he handled the time jump was navigated exceptionally with the aging on characters faces. Not only do they look a couple of years older, they look more experienced and wiser.

Of course it's not just the faces, but the hair! Rick's

beard is huge, Jesus' hair is.....Not like Jesus anymore. (Shall we call him Paul now?)

**GOOD question.**

As an aspiring illustrator myself, I can only dream of the day I can draw even half as well as Charlie Adlard.

Finley Neilens,  
Plymouth, England

**Try perfecting a pig's ass first. Good info that you fellows know your way around one.**

WOW 127 was amazing !!! 2 part question

1) How well can Rick actually walk ? does he have no strength at all on his one leg?

***Very little. Hence the cane.***

2) and will his walking ever improve ? or is he doomed to be a limperson mcgimperson forever ?

***Only time will tell.***

hosjes  
surrey

bc  
canada

wait I forgot

3) it looks like there is a cable attached to ricks "claws" can he control that?

***It's a cable that is anchored to his back so that when he moves his arm out, his claw opens and closes so he can pick stuff up.***

Hi Robert,

Before #127 I didn't think this book could get any closer to being an Old West tale. Cowboy hats, savages, bandits, samurai cowboys, the sheriff, his posse, running for the border (well escaping the prison), gunslingers being haunted by their past, a preacher man, shooting guns out of people's hands, epic showdowns, last stands. Turns out you just need to add more blacksmiths, get some drifters, a jailhouse, round up the herd and settle the frontier. It was a cracking read (loved it). Much less of a post-apocalyptic nod towards Romero and heading off into the sunset with Leone.

**The Western is in every American's blood. Those tropes lend themselves to so many different kinds of stories.**

You have talked about your horror genre influences before when creating TWD, have you also felt Westerns have played a large part in the world you have created (or is it just the natural progression of the storytelling running a parallel)?

Cheers.

Jeremy, UK

***My love of Westerns is certainly playing into things now, that's for sure.***

Walking Dead Geniuses,

Things I said a year ago:  
1. I have no desire to watch a show about Zombies.  
2. I have not read a comic book since the Archie's in the early 70's and have no desire to start today.

Flash forward to today:

1. I have watched all the shows to current and



absolutely love them! They are the best writing and concept I have seen for a long time.  
2. I am current on all of the graphic novels and can't wait for the release of each new issue. The art and the writing are amazing! I also love how the show and the novel are different so that each remains interesting.  
3. I visited a comic book store to purchase #127 today and purchased volume 1 of Invincible upon the recommendation of the shop person.

Thank you for the work you do and the talent you share with all of us!

Tricia

**That's awesome, Tricia! I predict that in a year from now you'll have read everything INVINCIBLE and dug into MANIFEST DESTINY and the other great Skybound titles.**

*I'd like to recommend OUTCAST, which is already in stores at the time this is printed! Actually, I believe issue 2 will be out very soon. Check it out.*

*Also, glad that we got you hooked! Welcome aboard!*

---

I'm sure I'm not the only one to have found the new-look Rick and Carl to be pretty unexpected. I think it could have been handled easier, if the first panel had read "One year later" or something like that. I get that Rick might be the new Gregory and that Carl has to grow up, but still, I'm fairly sure I'm not the only one to have gone back to view previous comics to see if the talent had changed in light of the stylistic change. It's jarring.

Having said all that, I'm enjoying the ride, just a bit more wary now.

Niall

*It was meant to be jarring. Having a caption revealing that a lot of time had passed... would have ruined the fun.*

---

Kirkman,

Hmm. The Walking Dead #127...was...Totally Absorbing! Even compared to cutting edge stuff like Batman Eternal and Futures End, which I read the same day.

**"Cutting edge," I love it! You reveal yourself, Shaw!**

*Ha! Man... those DC comics are breaking new ground! It's just like... certainly no other superhero comics that have ever been published. Sean's right... this is explaining so much.*

---

New characters, new costumes, and not only did the Stinkers(?) actually appear--they killed somebody! Not to mention said Stinkers were shown en masse, and some of them even looked like shocked that they were being herded. Do you think, could it be: Zombies who actually Think, instead of just reacting?! Liking the new characters a lot, but Connie seems unnecessary and specious--we've already got Michonne. Wait, what...what happened to Michonne? She at the Hilltop...? She wasn't even mentioned in the issue!...and I didn't even notice until right now! I suppose she could've died in the last two years. So... Where. Is. Michonne?

**Chilling next to Carmen Sandiego.**

Also I just flashed on something. What happened to

the grenades, from AOW? They couldn't all have been used, right? Well, why not just throw at least one into the big pack of Stinkers and be done with it!! Magna

seems the perfect female opposite to Rick. Even more than Andrea. Is that what you have in mind--oops: Spoiler Alert!--or maybe a love triangle?

***I think Rick and Andrea have too strong a bond for that. So strong a grenade couldn't break them up!***

I should also tell you, I spoiled the ending for myself: I read the last page before the rest of the issue! It didn't Really spoil anything for me, though - it just made it more fascinating!! I did spend the whole, or maybe half the issue thinking Jesus was Negan, though. Maybe that's what you were going for anyway, who knows. But since when does Jesus have black hair? "A New Beginning", indeed. In case you couldn't tell, I feel this issue really struck a chord. Say hey to the gang from me.

Cheers,  
Andrew J. Shaw

*"Say hey to the gang from me" is my new favorite way to end a letter. I'm ending all my emails with that this week.*

---

Dear walking dead crew,

I want to keep this as short as possible (because I hate it when some dumb kid's letter drags on forever).

After the season 4 finale of the TV show, I started reading the Comics. Needless to say, my new found obsession escalated quickly. So here I sit, anxiously awaiting the release of issue 128. And I must say, way to go! You guys have a knack for developing TWD characters in ways that other books/comics haven't even touched. The last few pages with Carl and Negan gave me chills, literally! But I must say, part of Negan's original charm was his ability to use syntax and curse words in an intelligent and well thought out manner. Which left me feeling pretty surprised to see him speaking so PG 13 in issue 128. I can't wait to see why the last two years impacted Negan so drastically! You guys are awesome, keep cranking out awesome shit for me to read!

ps,  
PLEASE go back to releasing TWD bi-weekly!

**We're doing those two issues in October, jeesh!**

pps, Charlie Adlard and Dave Stewart- the cover art for issue 128 was the best yet! TWD crew always manages to develop every issue into a work of art.

Bonnie Sams  
Atlanta, Georgia.

*Sweet! Thanks for writing in, Bonnie! Say hey to the gang from me.*

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**This month we'll be in San Diego working on our tans inside the lovely San Diego Convention Center (that's what it's called, right?). Walking Dead will be well represented with Robert and Charlie in attendance. Check the Skybound.com site for panel and signing info and news on exclusive items, like for instance, your very own LUCILLE or a shirt that makes you look like mf'n EZEKIEL, or even your very own Ezekiel ACTION FIGURE. And that's just the tip. Have fun til then, y'all!**

**-Sean Mackiewicz**

*Oh, crap... Comic-Con is coming up, isn't it? I need to get caught up on scripts. Sheesh.*

*Say hey to the gang from me!*

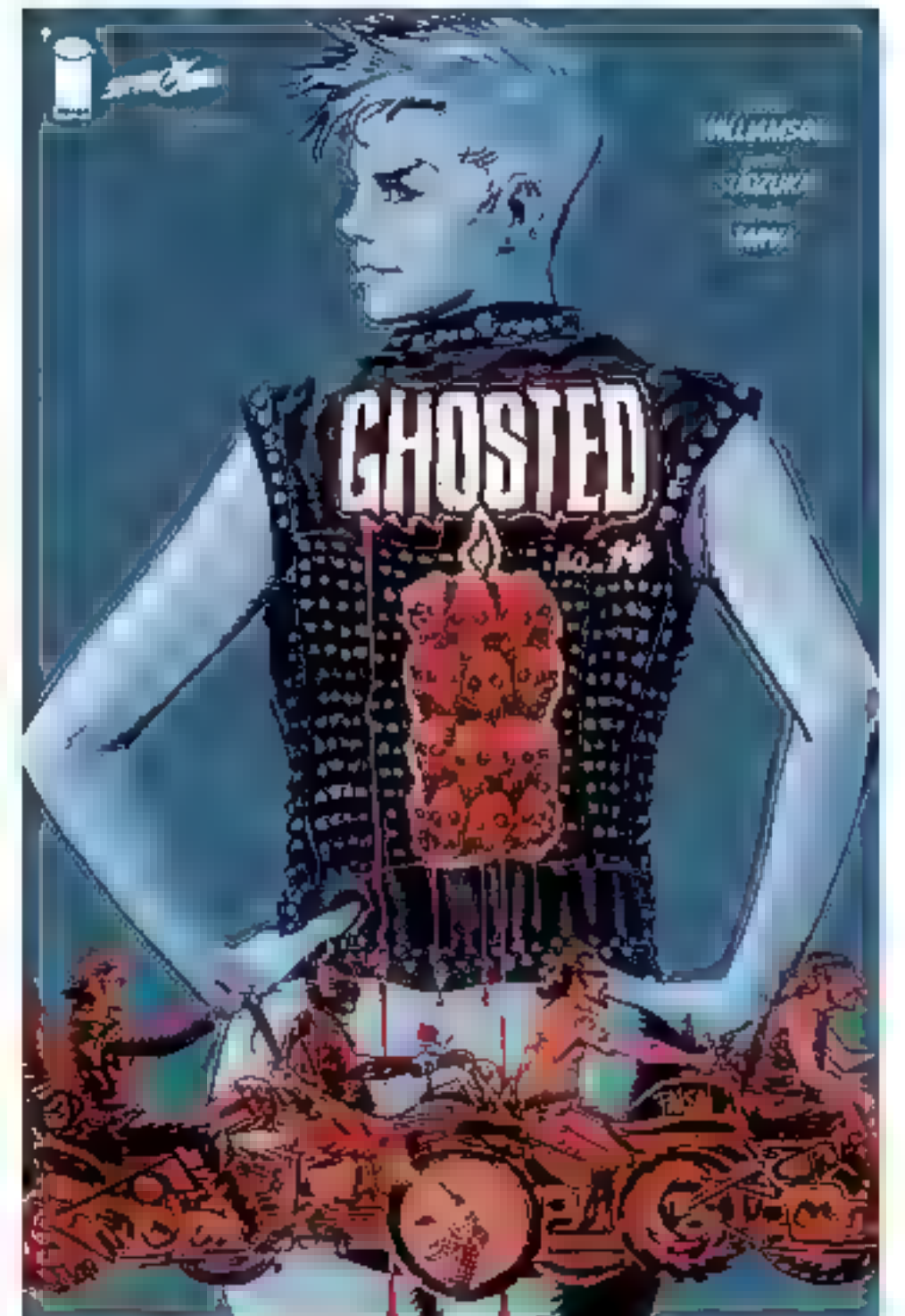
**-Robert Kirkman**



# DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



**THE WALKING DEAD #130**  
ON SALE AUGUST 2014



**GHOSTED #11**  
ON SALE NOW



**SPREAD #1**  
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**THE WICKED & THE DIVINE #2**  
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FROM  
THE WRITER OF  
**BLACK SCIENCE**  
AND THE ARTIST OF  
**UNCANNY  
X-FORCE**

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AN AQUATIC,  
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FANTASY,  
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REMAINING  
CITIES UNDERSEA...

...AS THEY RACE  
TO THE MOST  
UNEXPECTED ALIEN  
WORLD OF ALL—  
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